

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF *COLLYRIOCINCLA*  
FROM QUEENSLAND.

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*COLLYRIOCINCLA CERVINIVENTRIS*, *sp. nov.*

*Adult male*.—General colour above greyish-brown very slightly shaded with olive, clearer grey on the head; wing-coverts like the back, the quills brown washed with olive on their outer webs, and externally edged with grey; tail brown, the two centre feathers, and the outer webs of the remainder, shaded with grey; feathers in front of the eye dull white; ear-coverts pale brown with narrow white shaft streaks; cheeks and throat white, slightly tinged with buff; remainder of the under surface and under wing-coverts pale fawn colour, the feathers on the chest shaded with grey; bill and legs fleshy-brown. Total length 7·2 inches; wing 3·7, tail 3·2, bill 0·87, depth at nostril 0·25, tarsus 1·02.

*Hab.*—Dawson River, Queensland.

*Type*.—In the Australian Museum, Sydney.

*Obs.*—Another specimen, probably a female has the primary-coverts and outer webs of the secondaries washed with rufous-buff. This is the inland representative of *C. rufigaster* of the coastal brushes, from which it may be distinguished by its longer and thinner bill, and by its very much paler upper and under surface. In all the specimens from this district—three in number—the distinctive characters of this species are constant.

Eggs of this closely allied species were described by me in the "Nests and Eggs of Australian Birds,"\* under the name of *C. rufigaster*.

The type of *C. rufigaster* was obtained in the brushes of the Clarence River, New South Wales. An adult male from this locality measures:—total length 7·3 inches; wing 3·9, tail 3·3, bill 0·8, depth at nostril 0·3, tarsus 1·08. A large series of specimens from the coastal districts of Queensland, as far north as Cairns, vary only in wing measurement from 3·8 to 3·9 inches.

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\* Austr. Mus. Cat. xii., 1889. Nests and Eggs, p. 83.

Gould's *C. parvissima* is a decidedly smaller race, and is further distinguished by its upper parts being more strongly washed with olive. A specimen from Cape York measures, total length 6·3 inches, wing 3·5, tail 2·7, bill 0·75. It ranges as far south as the Herbert River. The wing-measurement varies from 3·5 to 3·6 inches. In a large series of specimens examined I can find no gradation in size between *C. rufigaster* and its smaller northern ally, *C. parvissima*. Dr. Sharpe, in the "Catalogue of Birds in the British Museum,"\* has described a specimen of the latter race from Cape York under the name of the larger species, *Pinarolestes rufigaster*, Gould.

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### ON *STICHOPUS MOLLIS*, HUTTON.

By THOMAS WHITELEGGE, Zoologist, Australian Museum.

DURING a recent visit to Eden, Dr. J. C. Cox obtained a *Holothurian*, which he presented to the Museum collection.

The species proves to be *Stichopus mollis*, Hutton, hitherto only recorded from New Zealand. At first I referred it to *S. sordidus*, Th el,† but on consulting a paper by Prof. A. Dendy‡ since received, I find that the "Challenger" specimens are considered to be examples of Hutton's *Holothuria mollis*. I agree with the opinion as expressed by Prof. Dendy. There appears to be no character to distinguish them except that of colour, which is evidently variable.

The colour of the Eden example in formol is light yellowish-brown, with the disks of the pedicels and the tips of the dorsal papill e darker.

The large bilateral plates form a ring on the margin of the disk and encircle the large central perforate plate at the extremity of the pedicel.

The dorsal papill e are supported by curved, smooth, spiny, or branched rods, disposed transversely; the lower ones tend to form plates similar to those of the ventral pedicels; apically each papilla terminates in a large perforate plate, which is surrounded by a series of stout moniliform rods, with either simple or spinose ends.

Length of specimen 130 mm.

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\* Brit. Mus. Cat. Birds iii. 1877, p. 296.

† Chall. Rep. Zool., xiv., p. 162, pl. viii., fig. 3.

‡ Jour. Linn. Soc. Zool. xxvi., 1897, p. 46, pl. vii., figs. 73-82.